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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO. [redacted]

TOPIC Wittstock Airfield

25X1 EVALUATION [redacted]

PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

632959

DATE OF CONTENT 2 February to 11 March 1954

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DATE OBTAINED [redacted] DATE PREPARED 2 April 1964

REFERENCES [redacted]

PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [redacted]

REMARKS [redacted]

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1. The following air activity was observed at Wittstock airfield between 2 and 19 February 1954:

2 February. Between 11:30 a.m. and 3 p.m., jet fighters practiced flying individually and in elements of two. The temperature had dropped to 17 centigrades below zero. About 1 p.m., there was firing at ground targets. Between 5:30 p.m. and 10 p.m., swept-back jet aircraft practised night flights of 8 to 10 minutes duration. During the take-offs and landings, the runway was additionally lighted by searchlights.

4 February. Between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m., flying was practised in elements of two.

7 to 16 February. No air activity was observed. There were intermittent snow flurries and occasionally fog.

17 February. Between 8 a.m. and 8:20 a.m., MiG-15 or U-MiG-15s were observed aloft and firing at ground targets. Between 8:20 a.m. and 3 p.m., flying was practised in the vicinity of the field. From 6 p.m. until about 9 p.m., night flights were made by swept-back jet aircraft.

18 February. Between 8:30 a.m. and 1 p.m., take-offs were made by individual aircraft and by elements of two. The aircraft practised flying in the vicinity of the field remaining aloft for 8 to 15 minutes.

19 February. During the morning, 12 swept-back jet aircraft took off in elements of two, assembled in formations of four and practised flight formation.

2. The following observations were made at the field between 9 February and 11 March:

9 to 16 February. No air activity was conducted at the field.

17 February. MiG-15 or U-MiG-15s were observed aloft. There was clear frost weather.

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18 to 22 February. Swept-back jet aircraft were repeatedly observed making flights which included aerobatics.

24 February. Eleven MiG-15 or U-MiG-15s were parked at the field, including 7 in front of the hangars and 4 alert aircraft at the eastern end of the runway.

25 February. During the afternoon, individual flights were made by swept-back jet aircraft. There was a closed ceiling at an altitude of 300 meters and visibility of about 6 kilometers.

26 February. Throughout the day, swept-back jet aircraft practiced flying, including aerobatics. The sky was 1/10 overcast at an altitude of about 1,000 meters.

2 to 4 March. Flying was practiced every day. On 3 and 4 March, flights were made in formations of threes and fours.

9 March. Throughout the day, there was air activity. The aircraft took off in elements of two and then made a left bank flying toward the Gadow-Rossow troop training grounds. The landings were made individually.

10 March. During the morning, individual flights were made. There were no clouds. Approximately at 4 p.m., 10 MiG-15 or U-MiG-15s took off in rapid succession and assembled in two wedge formations and one element of two while flying a large left bank over the field; the formations headed west and returned about 4:30 p.m.. The landings were made individually. At 5 p.m., a twin-engine aircraft took off heading south.

11 March. About 4 p.m., 24 MiG-15 or U-MiG-15s were observed at the field, including 20 parked in the area of the hangars and 4 alert aircraft at the eastern end of the runway. No aircraft were seen in the hangars, the doors of which were open. No aircraft were observed aloft

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3. The Token-type radar set was still located on Rockstaedter Mountain. The set did not rotate. No changes have been observed on the other radar sets since January 1954. The radar set on the hill in the southwestern corner of the field had the shape of a vase turned upside down; its mast was braced by three wires each at two points. The device on the masthead consisted of 3 or 4 bent rods forming a basket. The other set located nearby had 4 vertical dipoles and a frame and was mounted on a van-like radio truck.²

4. Prior to 11 March, the AA gun emplacement in the southwestern corner of the field was occupied by 6 AA guns; only the canvas-covered barrels were seen projecting beyond the earth wall at an angle of 20 to 30 degrees. On 11 March, an additional 4 AA guns estimated at 37 millimeters were observed just east of the AA gun emplacement.³

5. On 10 February, a conference was held in Dranse and the owners of the fields adjacent to the airfield were informed that the airfield commander required a 7.75-hectare-large area of fields and woods in the southeastern extension of the field, about 700 meters southwest of Randow. On 11 February, there was another conference at the Soviet komendatura in Wittstock in the presence of the Soviet airfield commander, an interpreter, a German forester and the owners of the fields concerned. A decision was reached according to which the Soviets would rent the area required and pay a compensation of 6,360 eastmarks for the entire area, in addition to a yearly rent of about 125 eastmarks to the individual owners.

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6. On 11 March, the Red Mill Inn was unoccupied and all antennas and telephone lines were removed. Construction work was being done on the building and one large room was being provided with a partition wall.⁵

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7. During the morning of 2 March, some swept-back jet aircraft were observed over Wittstock. At 9:30 a.m. on 3 March, a MiG-15 or UL-MiG-15 took off from the field. After the landing of this aircraft, a take-off was made by one element of two. At 3:15 p.m. on 4 March, no air activity was observed. Several swept-back jet aircraft and a propeller-driven aircraft were parked at the field.⁶

8. A Kniforest-type radar set and a Fishnet-type set were located between the two southernmost buildings. Two sets of the same type were observed on the hill in the southwestern corner of the field. Next to the latter two sets, were two masts including one with a bent metal device at the masthead. Two radio trucks were also observed there. The Token-type set was still located on Hill 94.7.

9. On 7 March, the Red Mill Inn was still unoccupied. Construction material was piled up in the yard and six masons were at work.⁷

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25X1 1. Comment. Wittstock airfield is occupied by the Northern Flak Corps HQ and a fighter regiment of the fighter division in Lübeck. The regiment is equipped with 25 to 30 MiG-15s which, during the period under review, carried out the usual practice flights.

25X1 2. Comment. It is believed that the following radar sets are located at Wittstock airfield:

- 1 Token-type set and 1 Fishnet-type set on Rockstedter Mountain, Hill 94.7;
- 1 Kniforest-type set, 1 Fishnet-type set and 2 auxiliary sets of an unidentified type in the southwestern corner of the field;
- 1 Kniforest-type set, and 1 Fishnet-type set near the southernmost buildings in the quartering area;
- 1 Dumko-type set south of the repair hanger in the southwestern section of the tarmacadam.

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25X1 3. [Redacted] Comment. Since approximately November 1953, only one light AA battery has been observed at the field. The present report indicates that two light batteries are apparently being employed there.

25X1 4. [Redacted] Comment. The area mentioned is located just south of the intersection of the Klein Hasslow - Randow road and the spur track leading from Gross Hasslow to the airfield.

25X1 5. [Redacted] Comments. The Red Mill Inn had previously been occupied by a signal unit.

25X1 6. [Redacted]

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